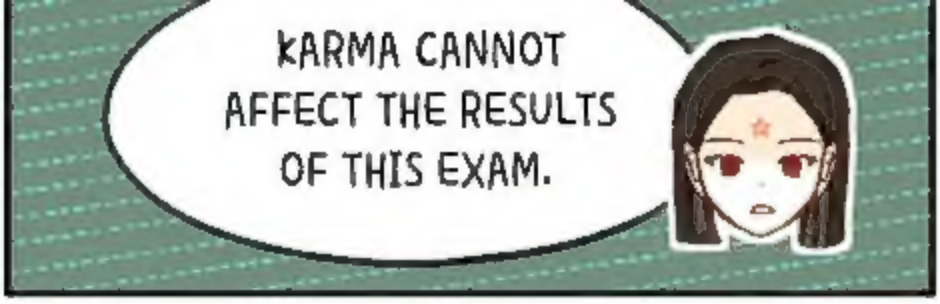
How to become a Dragon

- EPISODE 20 -

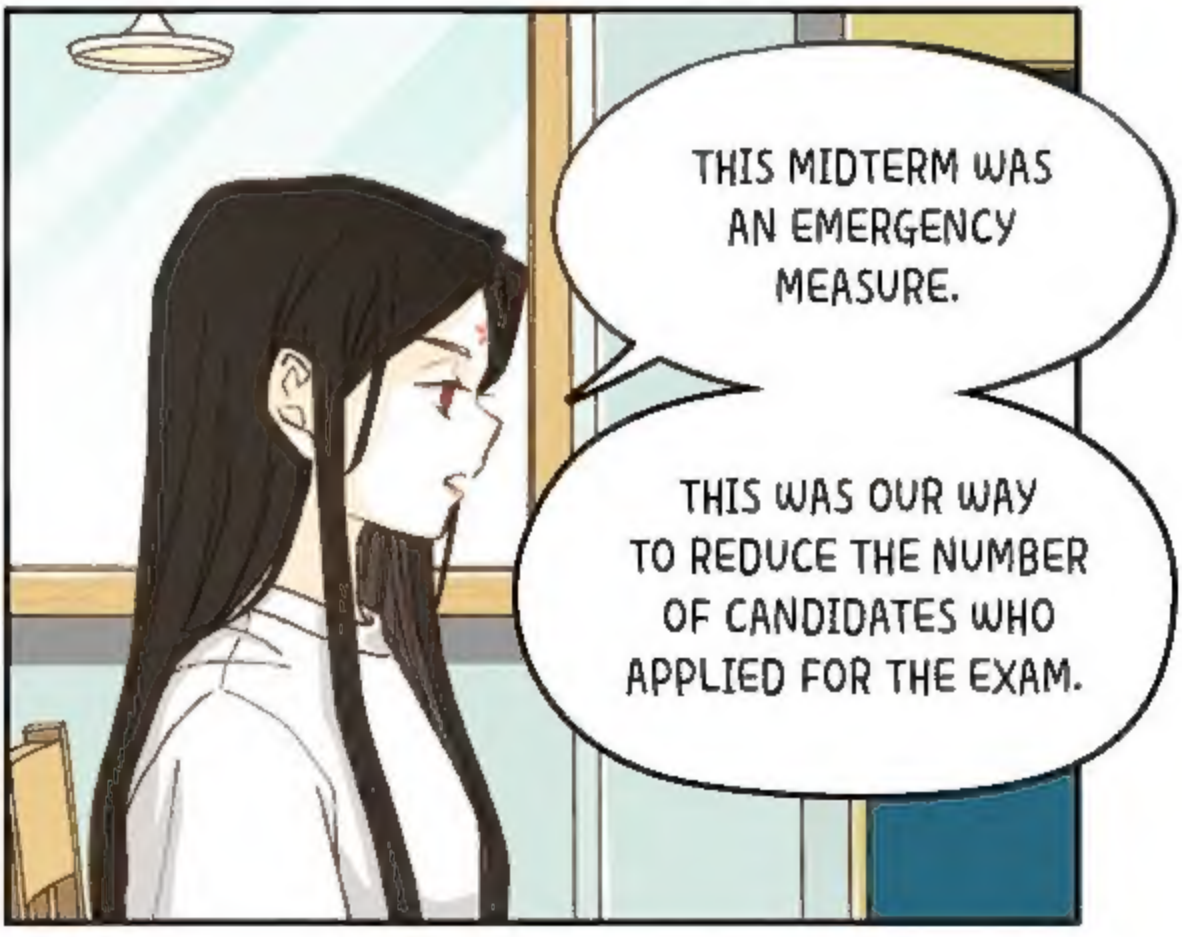
F-FAILED?
REALLY?
...

WAIT,
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
ARE YOU SURE? MY PROJECT PLACED LAST?
YEAH.
SIT DOWN

UM, COULD THIS HAVE HAPPENED BECAUSE OF YOUNG'S KARMA?
MAYBE YOU SHOULD'VE TAKEN THAT INTO ACCOUNT...


KARMA CANNOT AFFECT THE RESULTS OF THIS EXAM.

THEN...
...I ACTUALLY FAILED?
DU DUN


THIS MIDTERM WAS AN EMERGENCY MEASURE.
THIS WAS OUR WAY TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF CANDIDATES WHO APPLIED FOR THE EXAM.

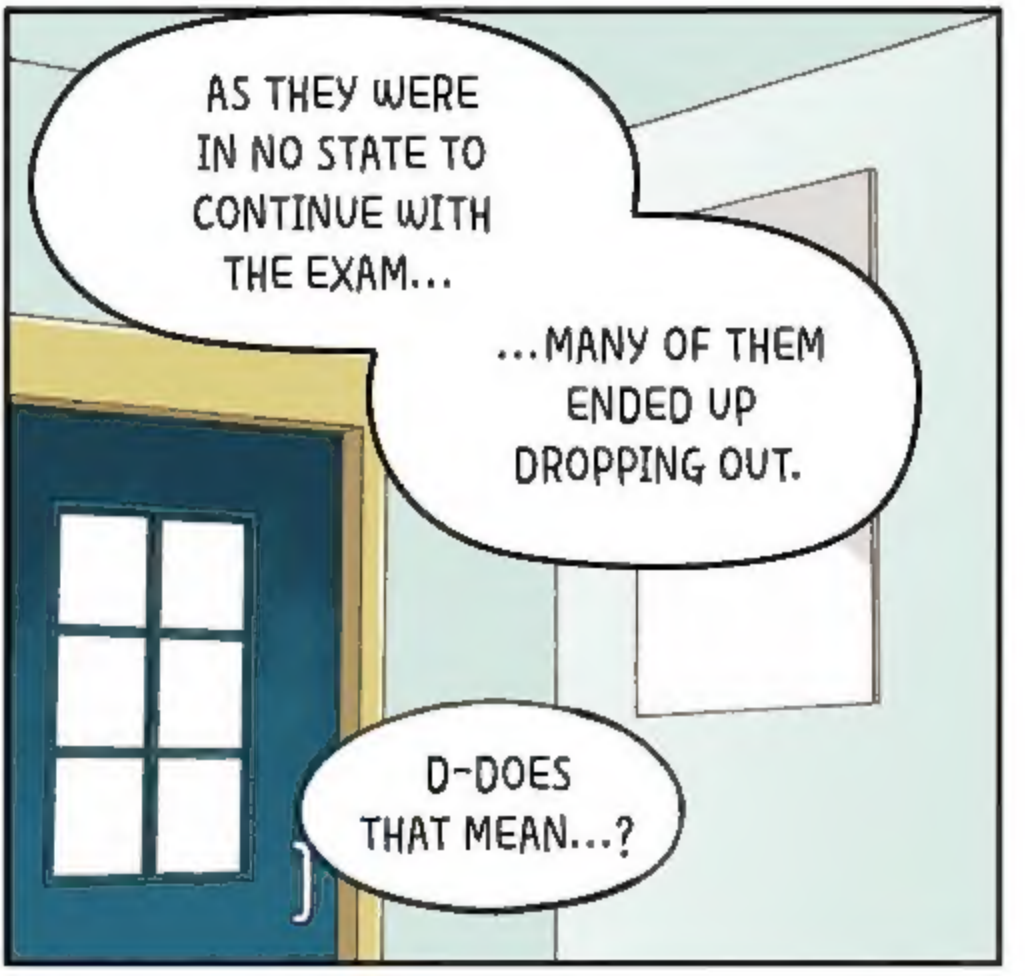
HOWEVER...
SLITHER
SLITHER

A TRAGEDY BEFELL THE IMOOGI WHO WERE RETURNING HOME AFTER SUBMITTING THEIR PROJECTS.

Boom

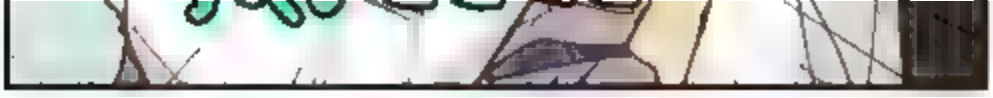
MANY OF THEM ENDED UP GETTING INJURED.
A-ARE THEY OKAY?

DMZ LAND MINE EXPLOSION
SUDDEN EXPLOSI
SO THAT'S WHAT THIS MORNING'S NEWS WAS ABOUT...
THEY SURVIVED BECAUSE THEY'RE IMOOGI, BUT THEY SUSTAINED SEVERE INJURIES.


AS THEY WERE IN NO STATE TO CONTINUE WITH THE EXAM...
...MANY OF THEM ENDED UP DROPPING OUT.
D-DOES THAT MEAN...?

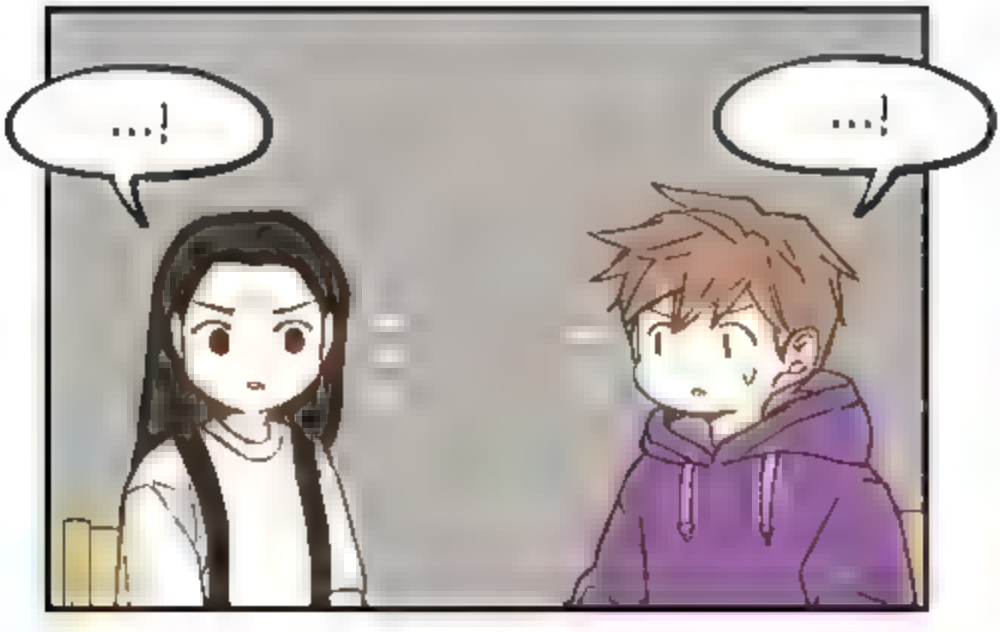
BECAUSE OF THE DRASTIC REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF CANDIDATES...
...ALL IMOOGI WHO SUBMITTED A PROJECT PASSED.

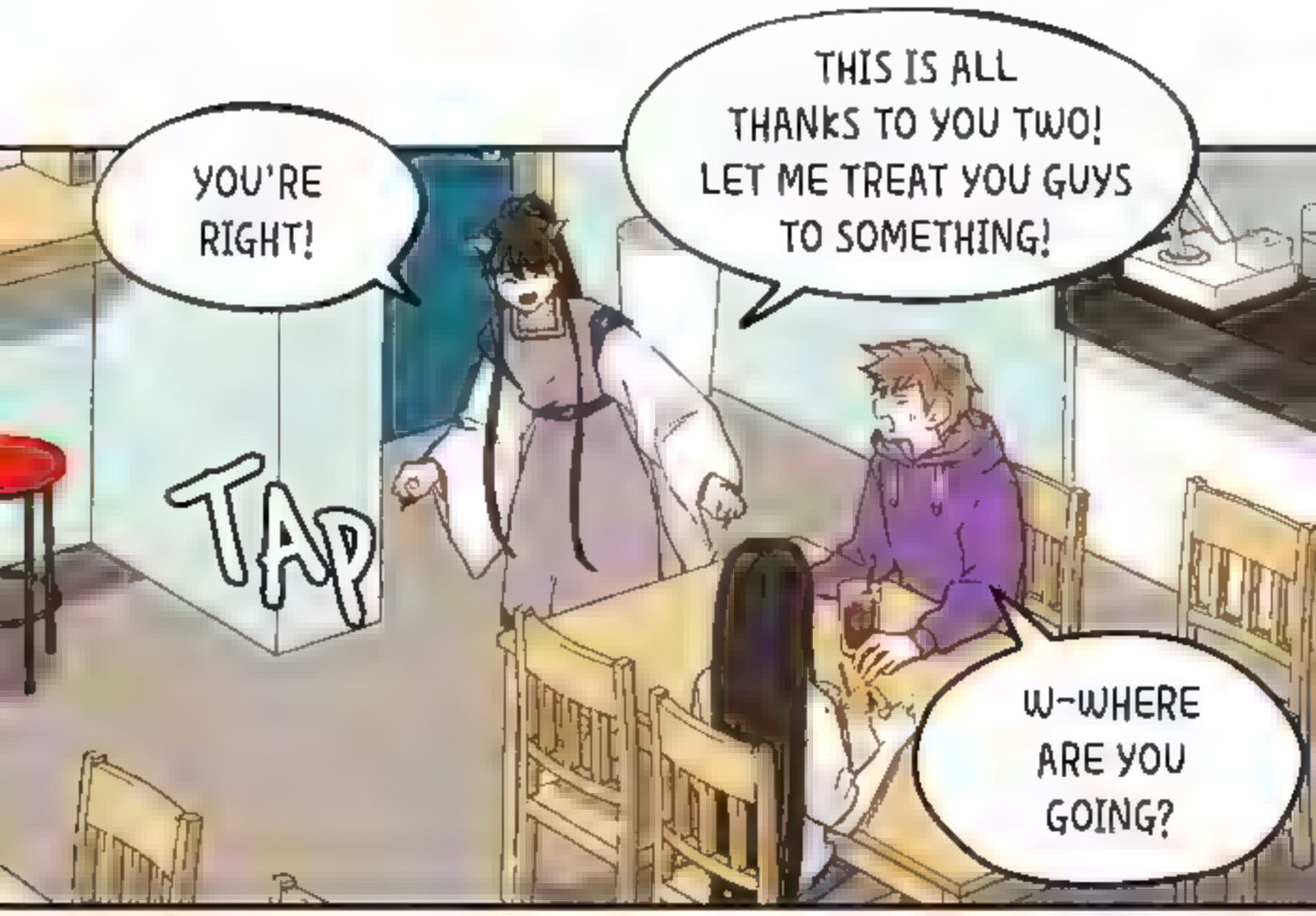
...!
...!
SQUEEZE

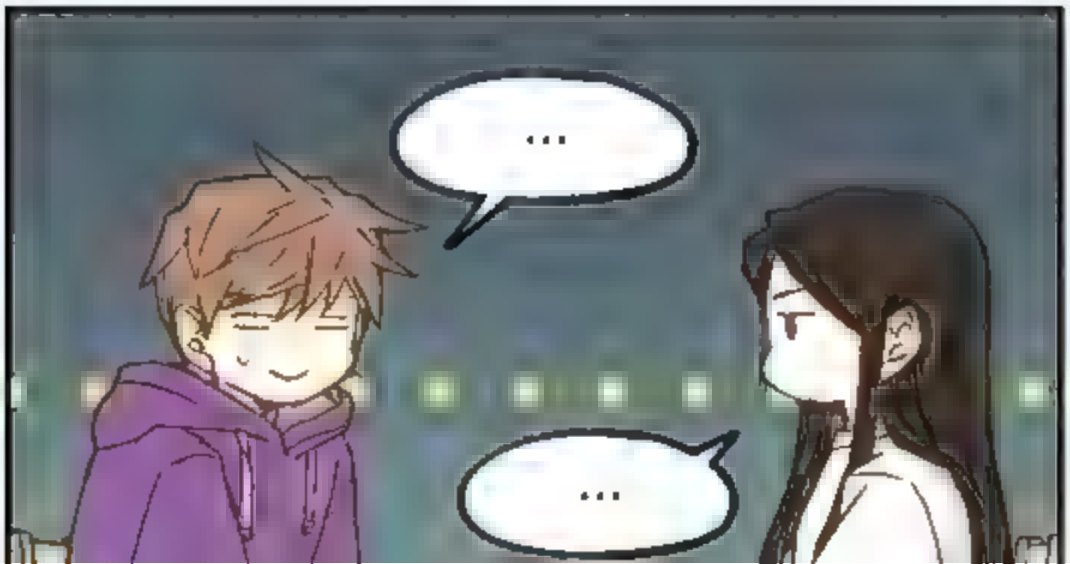


AH...!
I FEEL GUILTY FOR BEING HAPPY WHEN SO MANY IMOOGI GOT HURT...

UGH, DON'T BE SUCH A SOFTY!

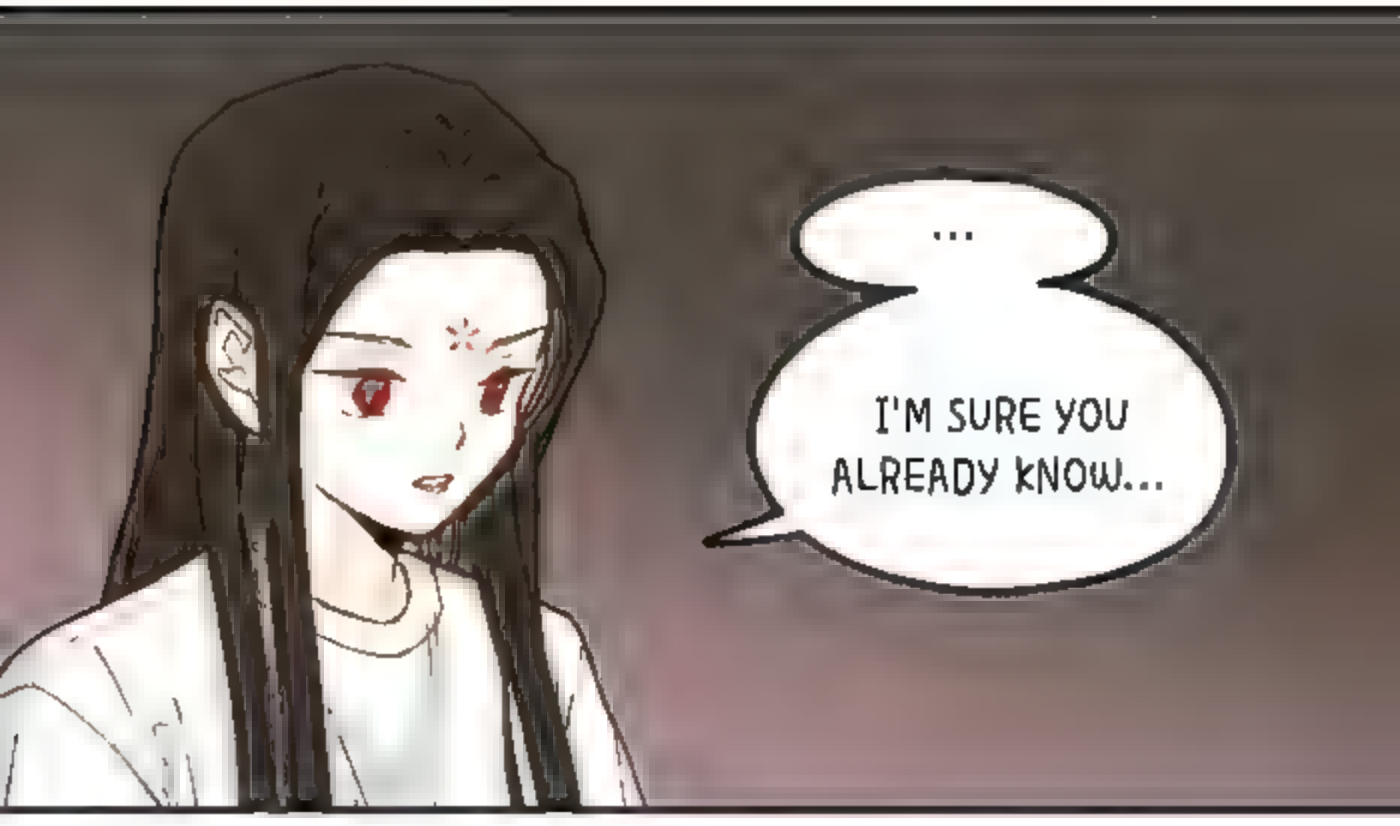



YOU'RE RIGHT!
TAP
THIS IS ALL THANKS TO YOU TWO! LET ME TREAT YOU GUYS TO SOMETHING!
W-WHERE ARE YOU GOING?


...
...

THAT DAY...

...I DIDN'T EXPECT YOU TO REALLY COME.
I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO BETRAY BARI, JUST LIKE YOUR ANCESTOR DID.
WE'RE NOT THAT CLOSE, SO WOULD IT EVEN BE CONSIDERED BETRAYAL IF I HADN'T SHOWN UP?
BUT I AM A RESPONSIBLE GUY.
IT WAS THE LEAST I COULD DO...


...
I'M SURE YOU ALREADY KNOW...

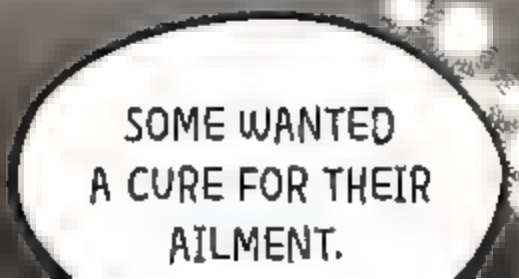
...BUT BARI'S INCREDIBLY NAÏVE...

...AND HE LOVES PEOPLE TOO.
SO HE ONLY SEES THEIR GOOD SIDE WHEN HE BEFRIENDS THEM.

HUMANS AT FIRST FIND BARI INTERESTING, A SUBJECT OF ADMIRATION.

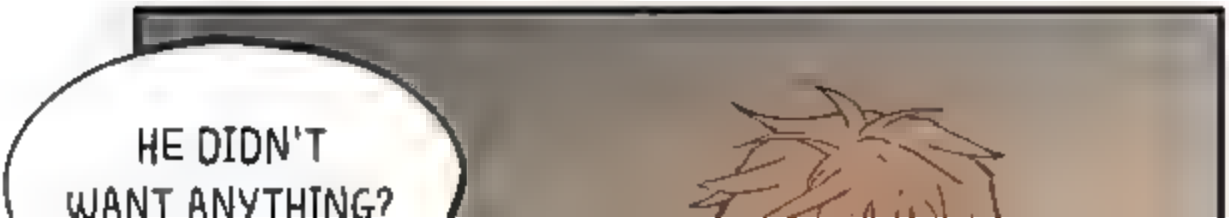
BUT ALL THE PEOPLE HE BEFRIENDED...

...EVENTUALLY SAW HIM ONLY AS A TOOL...
...FOR THEIR OWN GAIN.

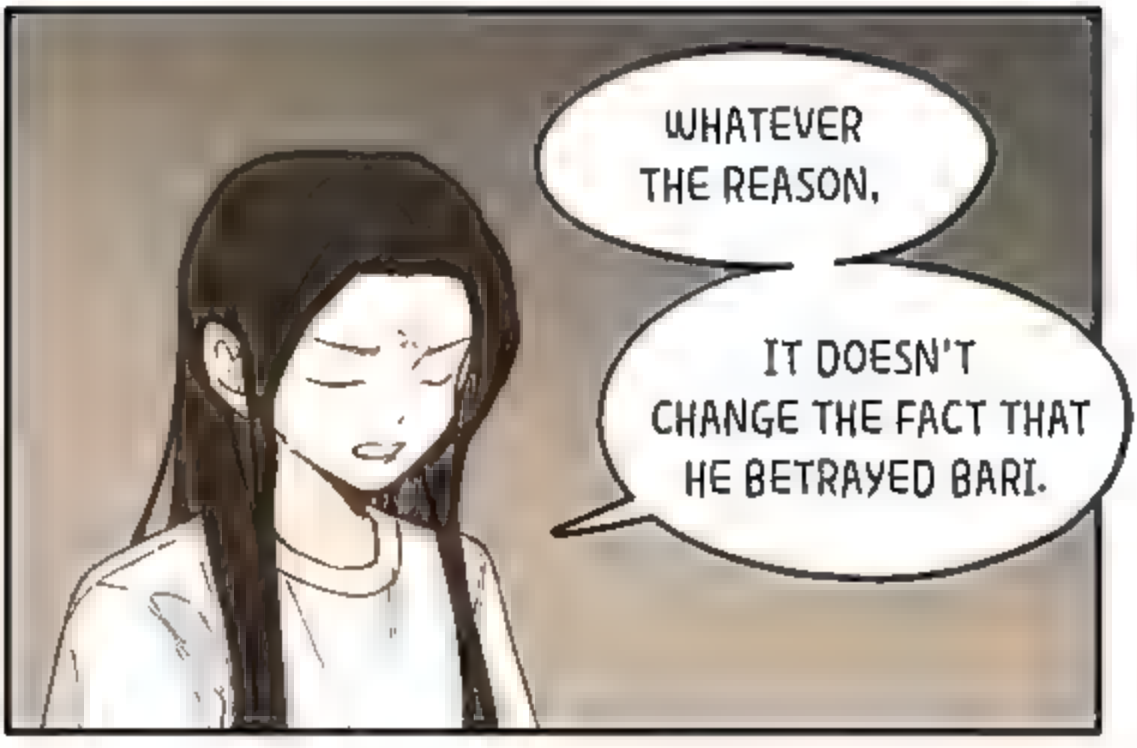

SOME WANTED A CURE FOR THEIR AILMENT.

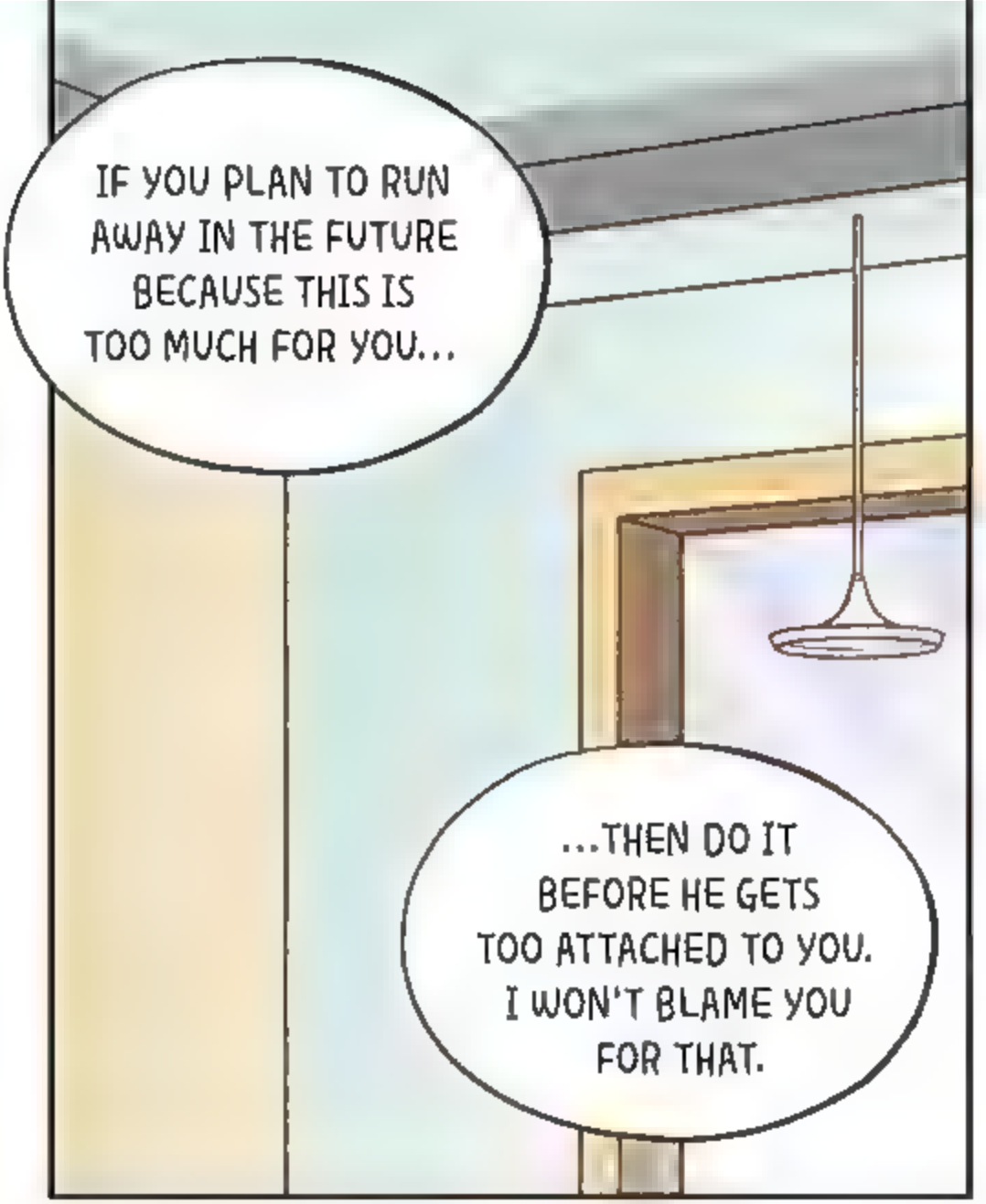
OTHERS WANTED TO KNOW WHERE TO FIND RARE GINSENG.
THEY ASKED HIM TO HUNT WILD ANIMALS...
...AND TO PICK MEDICINAL HERBS FOR THEM.
THEY ALL BOMBARDED HIM WITH THEIR DESIRES AND GREED.

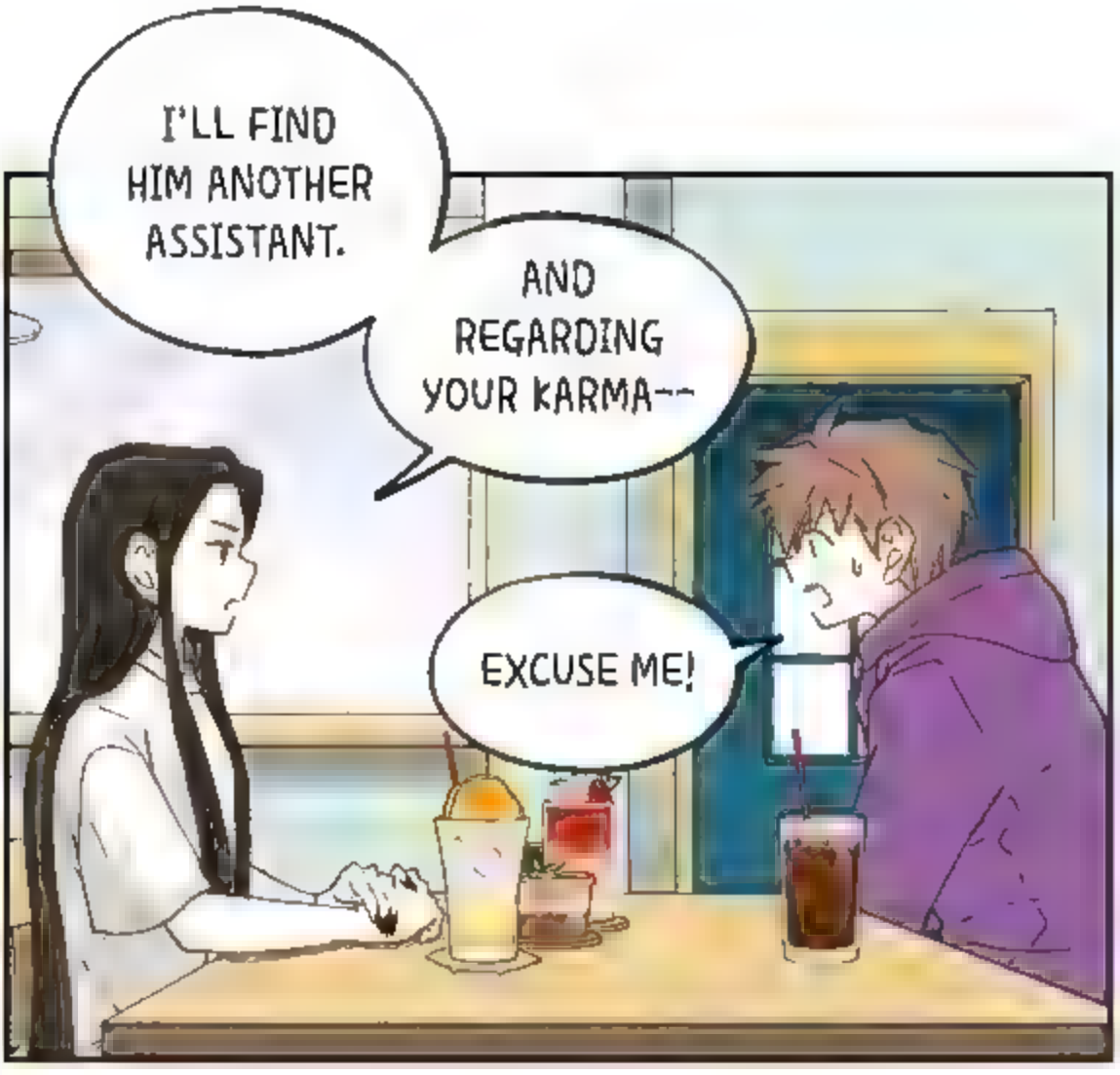
MR. KIM WAS THE ONLY ONE...
...WHO DIDN'T WANT ANYTHING FROM BARI.


HE DIDN'T WANT ANYTHING?

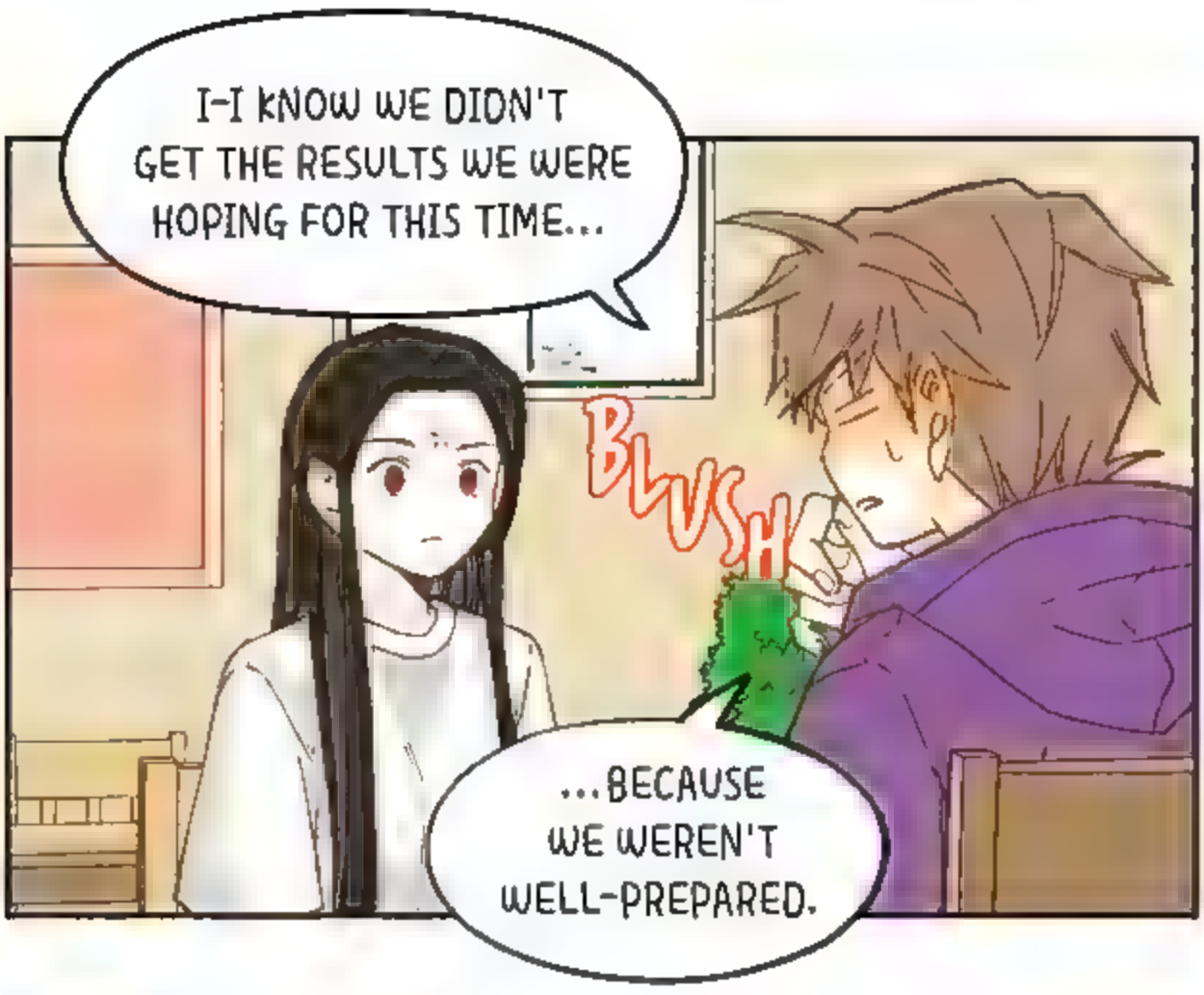
THEN WHY DID HE...?


WHATEVER THE REASON,
IT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT HE BETRAYED BARI.

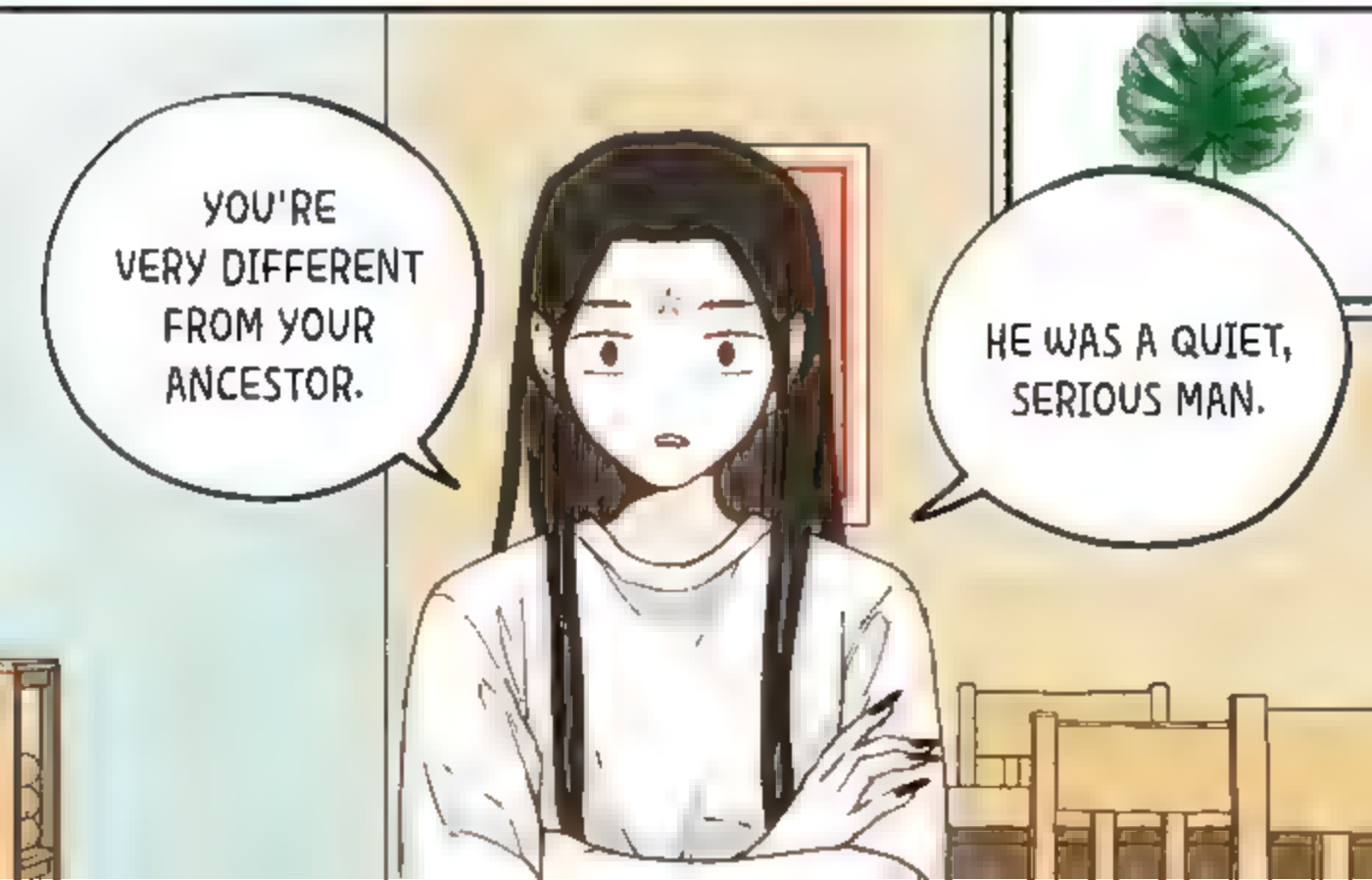

IF YOU PLAN TO RUN AWAY IN THE FUTURE BECAUSE THIS IS TOO MUCH FOR YOU...
...THEN DO IT BEFORE HE GETS TOO ATTACHED TO YOU. I WON'T BLAME YOU FOR THAT.


I'LL FIND HIM ANOTHER ASSISTANT.
AND REGARDING YOUR KARMA--
EXCUSE ME!

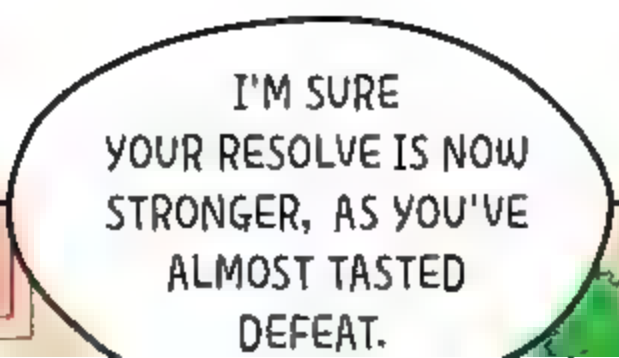
I NEVER GIVE UP ON MY STUDENTS.
NEVER!


I-I KNOW WE DIDN'T GET THE RESULTS WE WERE HOPING FOR THIS TIME...
BLUSH
...BECAUSE WE WEREN'T WELL-PREPARED.

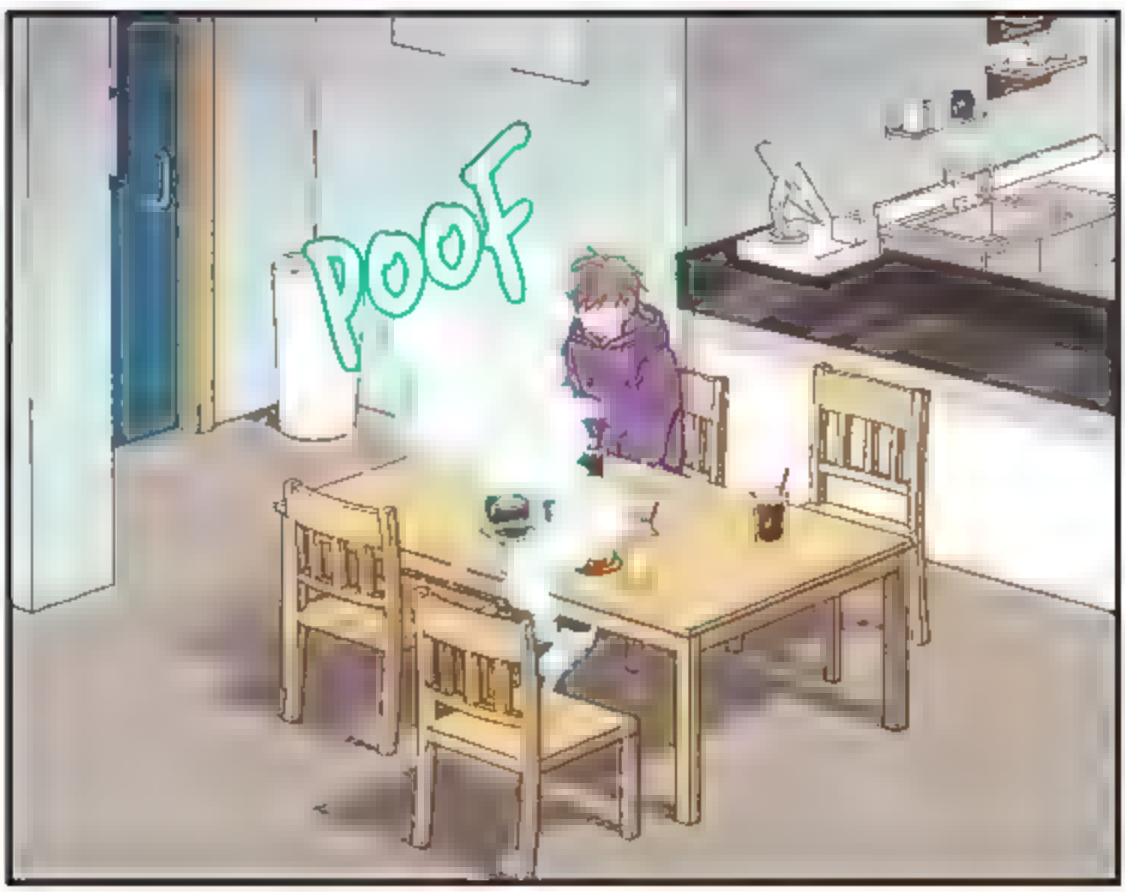
BUT NOW THAT WE'VE HIT ROCK BOTTOM, IT'S TIME FOR US TO CLIMB BACK UP!
ON FIRE
I'LL SHOW YOU THAT WE CAN DO IT! I WON'T GIVE UP!


YOU'RE VERY DIFFERENT FROM YOUR ANCESTOR.
HE WAS A QUIET, SERIOUS MAN.

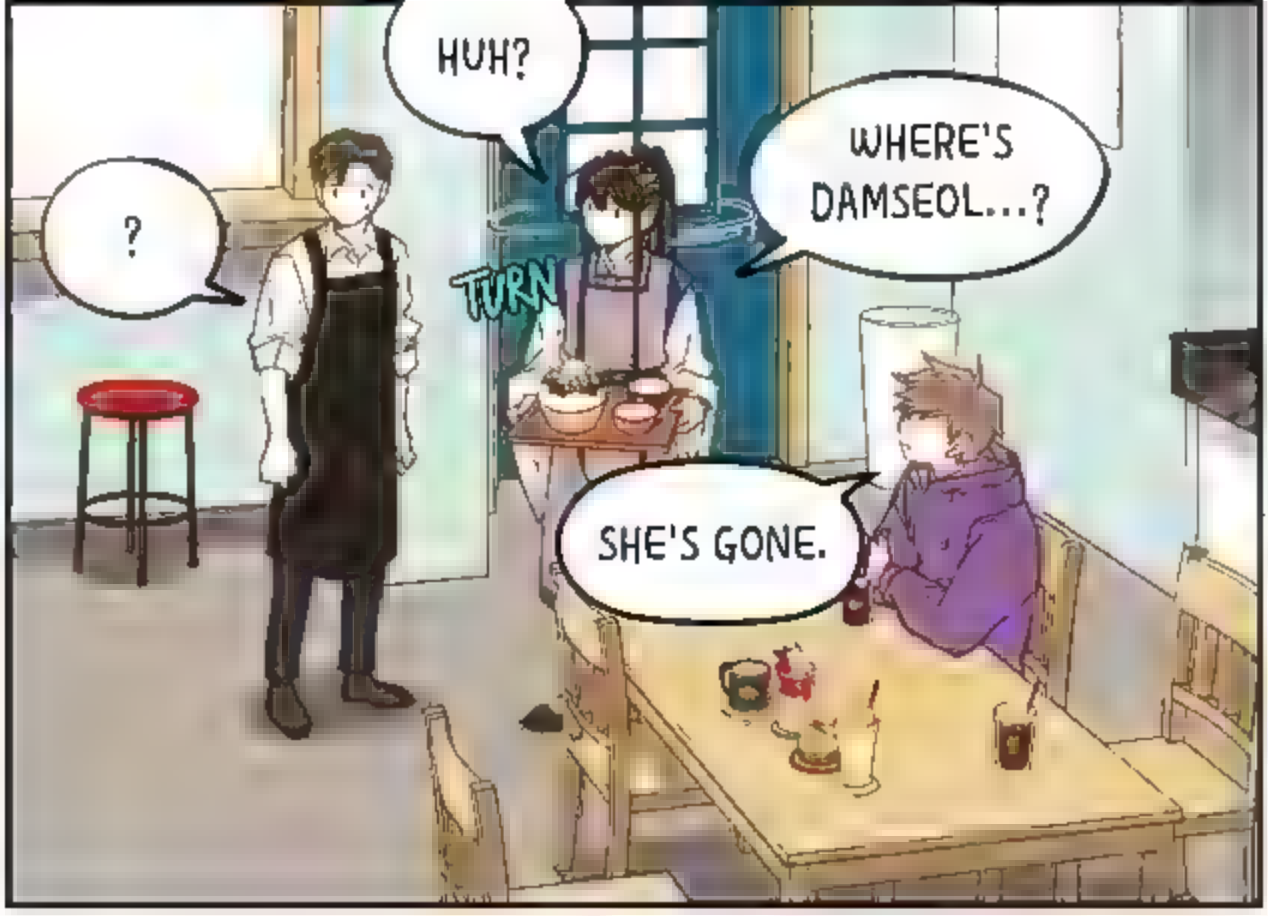
HEY, EVEN MY SISTER AND I HAVE DIFFERENT PERSONALITIES.
SO WHY DOES EVERYONE KEEP COMPARING ME TO A DISTANT ANCESTOR...?
ALL RIGHT.


I'M SURE YOUR RESOLVE IS NOW STRONGER, AS YOU'VE ALMOST TASTED DEFEAT.

CLACK
MAKE SURE YOU GIVE IT EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT.


POOF

YOUNG! DAMSEOL! I MADE THIS MYSELF!
LET'S DIG IN!
TA
DA

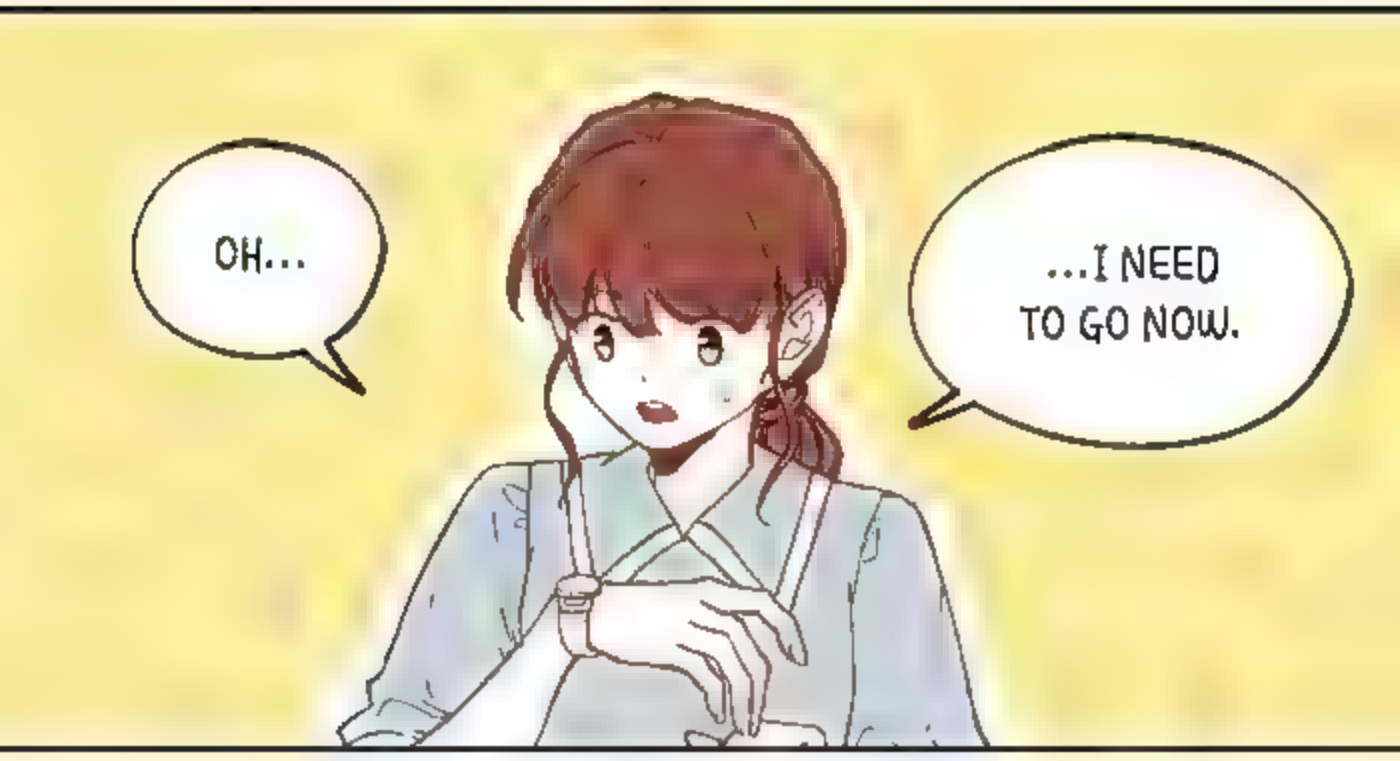

HUH?
WHERE'S DAMSEOL...?
?
TURN
SHE'S GONE.

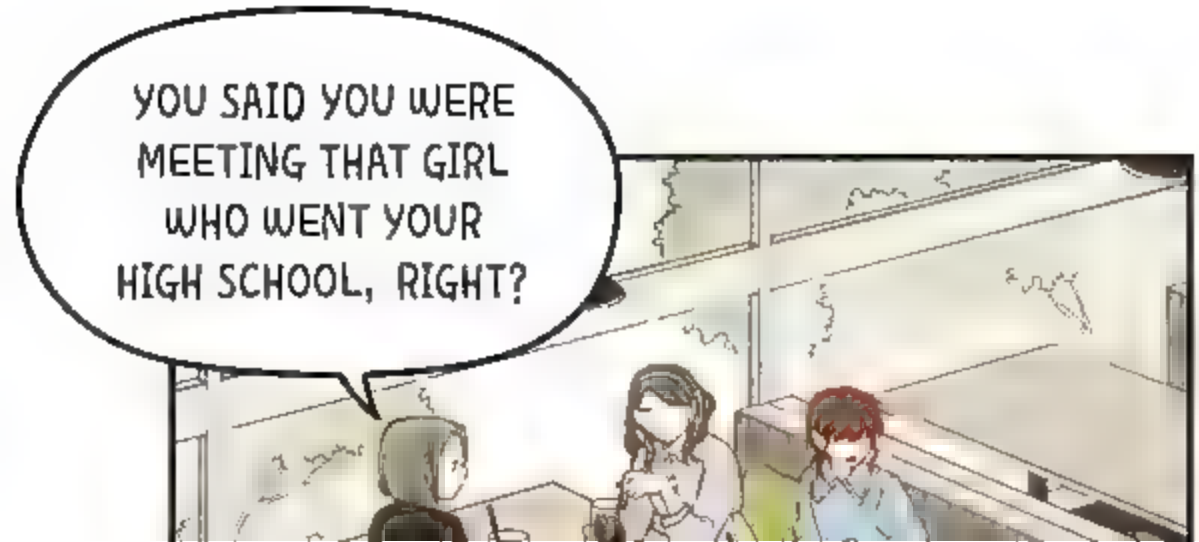
GONE?
BUT I DIDN'T EVEN HEAR HER LEAVE...
DROOP

I PUT IN SO MUCH EFFORT...
TO SHOW WHAT I CAN DO...
WHEN DID YOU LEARN HOW TO DO ALL THIS?
WHILE YOU WERE TUTORING OTHER STUDENTS!

HIS WRITING IMPROVED A LOT.

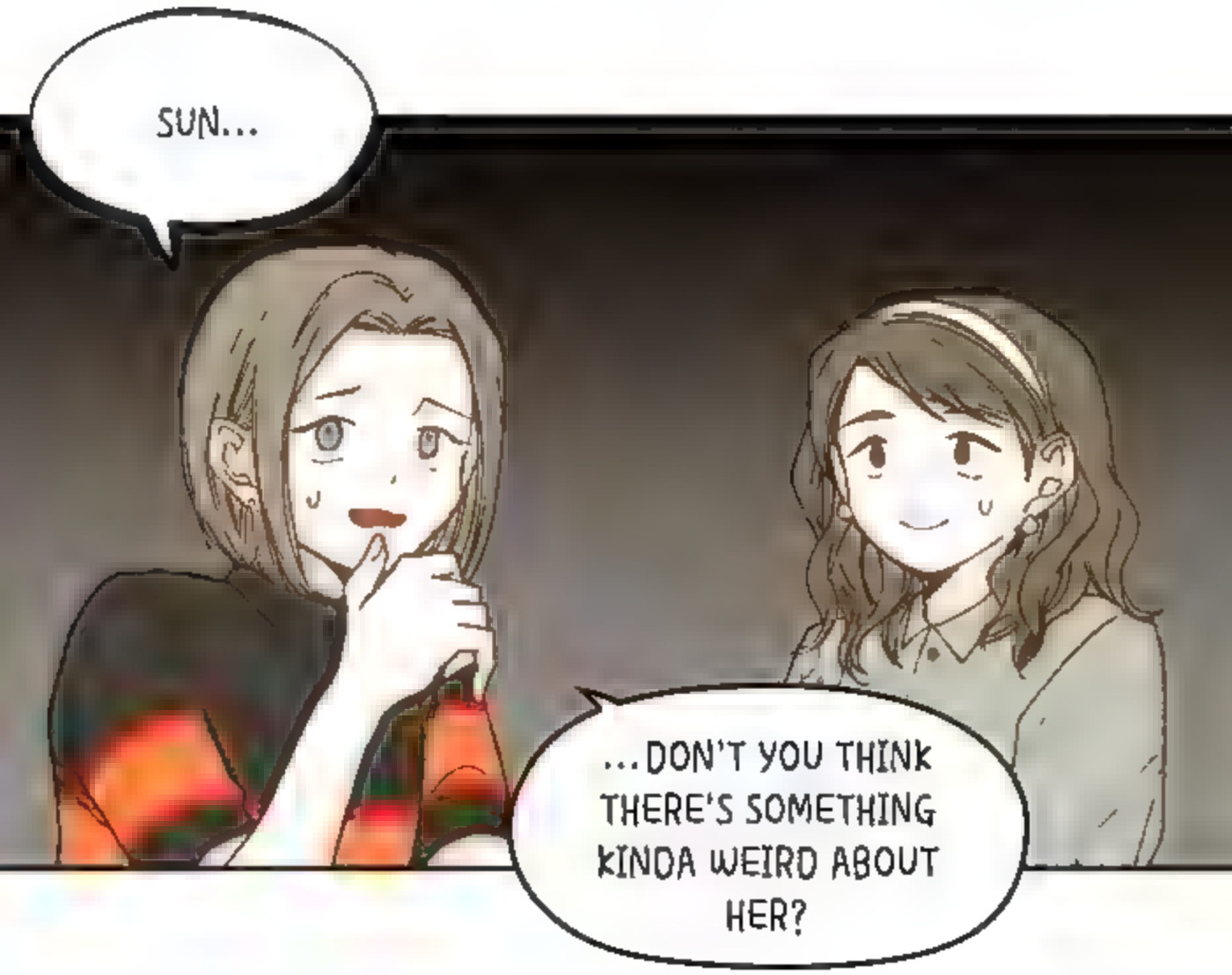
ALRIGHT!
LET'S DO OUR BEST ON THE FINAL EXAM AND GET THE HIGHEST SCORE!
YES!
YOU CAN DO IT!
BRING IT ON!

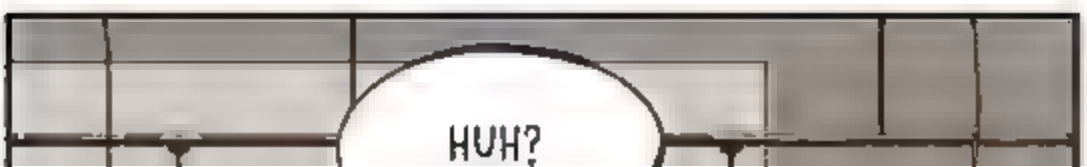

OH...
...I NEED TO GO NOW.

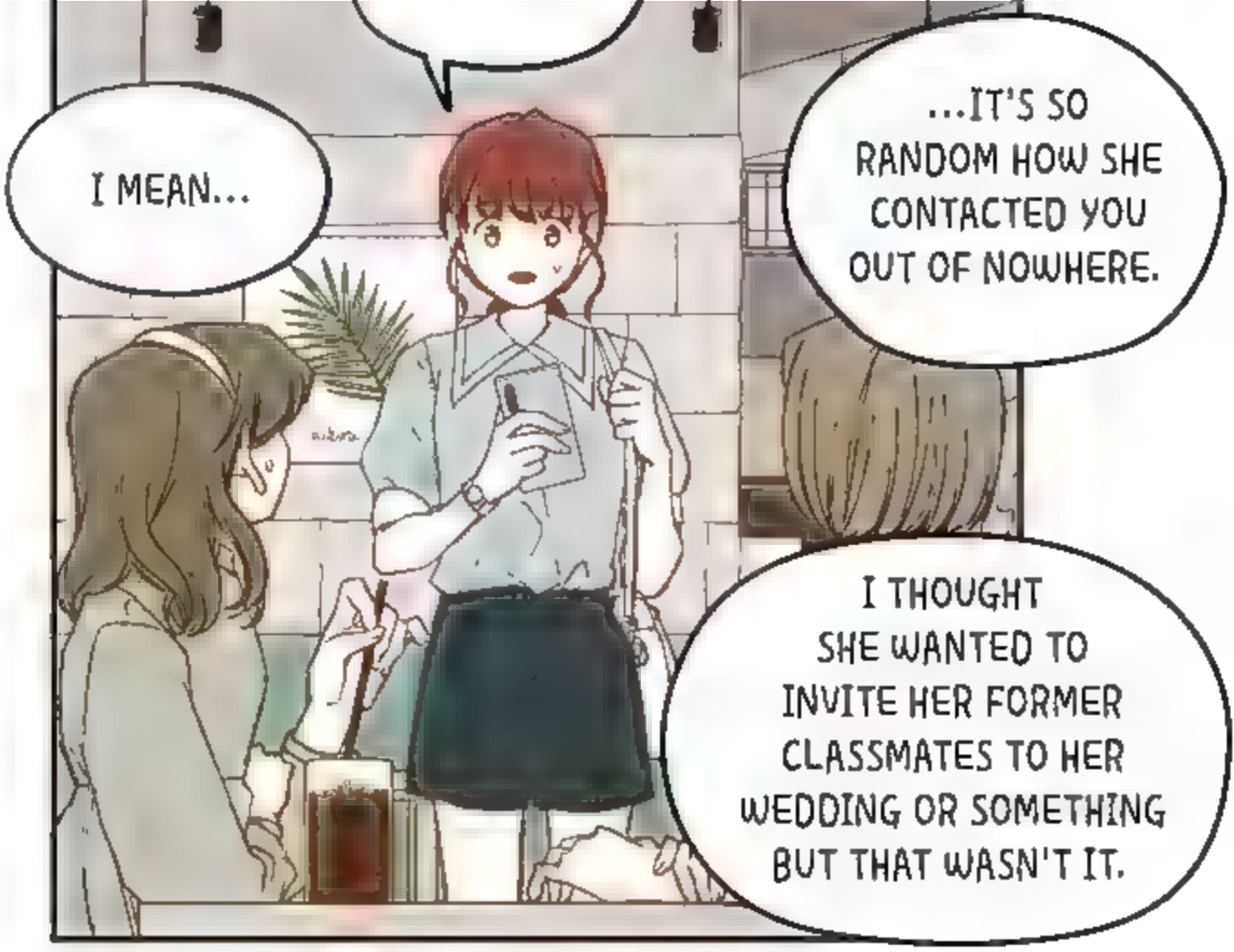

YOU SAID YOU WERE MEETING THAT GIRL WHO WENT YOUR HIGH SCHOOL, RIGHT?

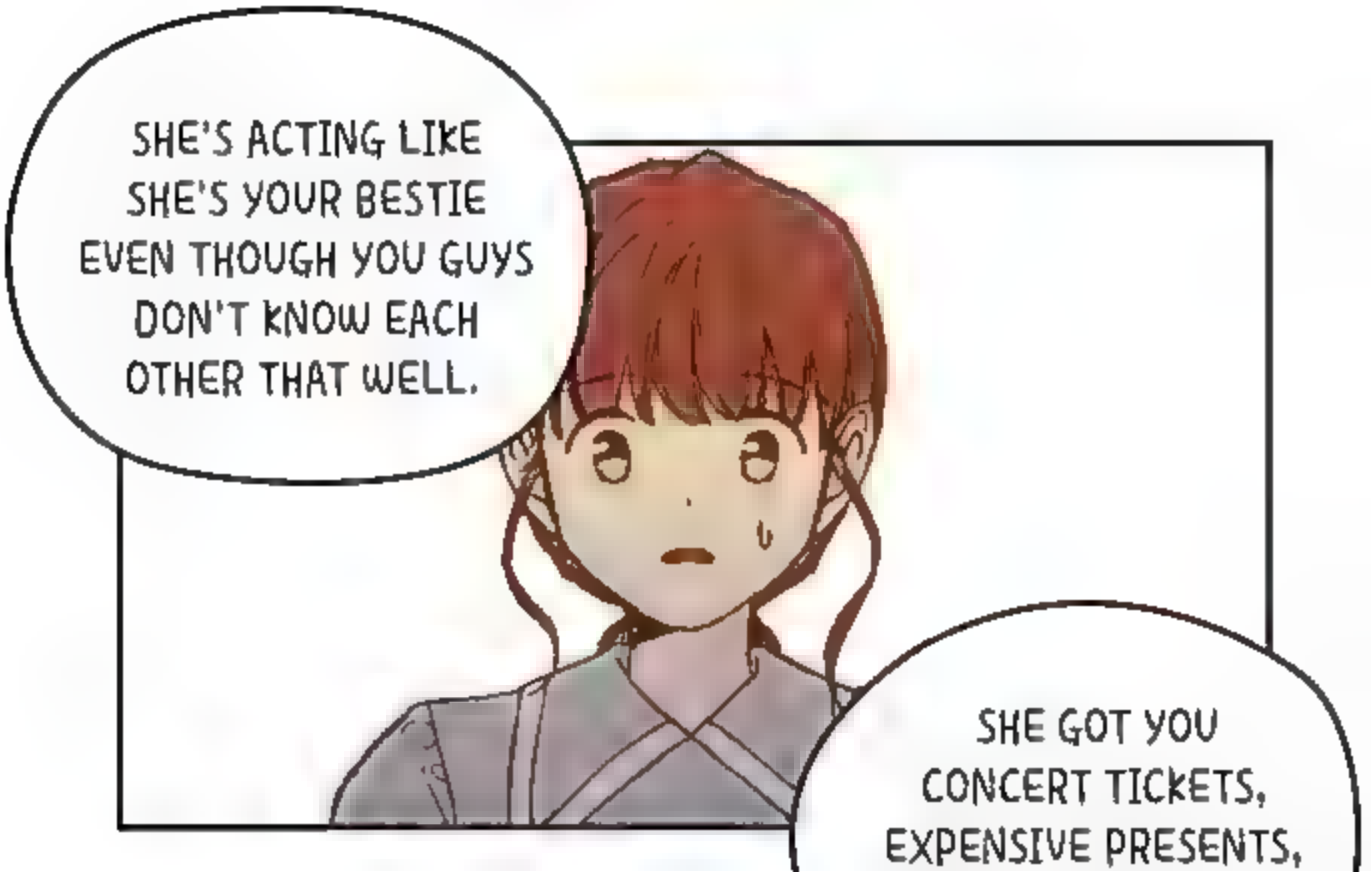
YEAH, WE'RE GONNA GRAB DINNER TOGETHER.
SHE SAYS I HELPED HER GET A GOOD GRADE ON HER MIDTERMS, SO SHE WANTS TO GET ME DINNER AS A THANk YOU.
...

BUT I FEEL SO BAD, SHE ALWAYS TREATS ME AND NEVER LETS ME BUY ANYTHING FOR HER.

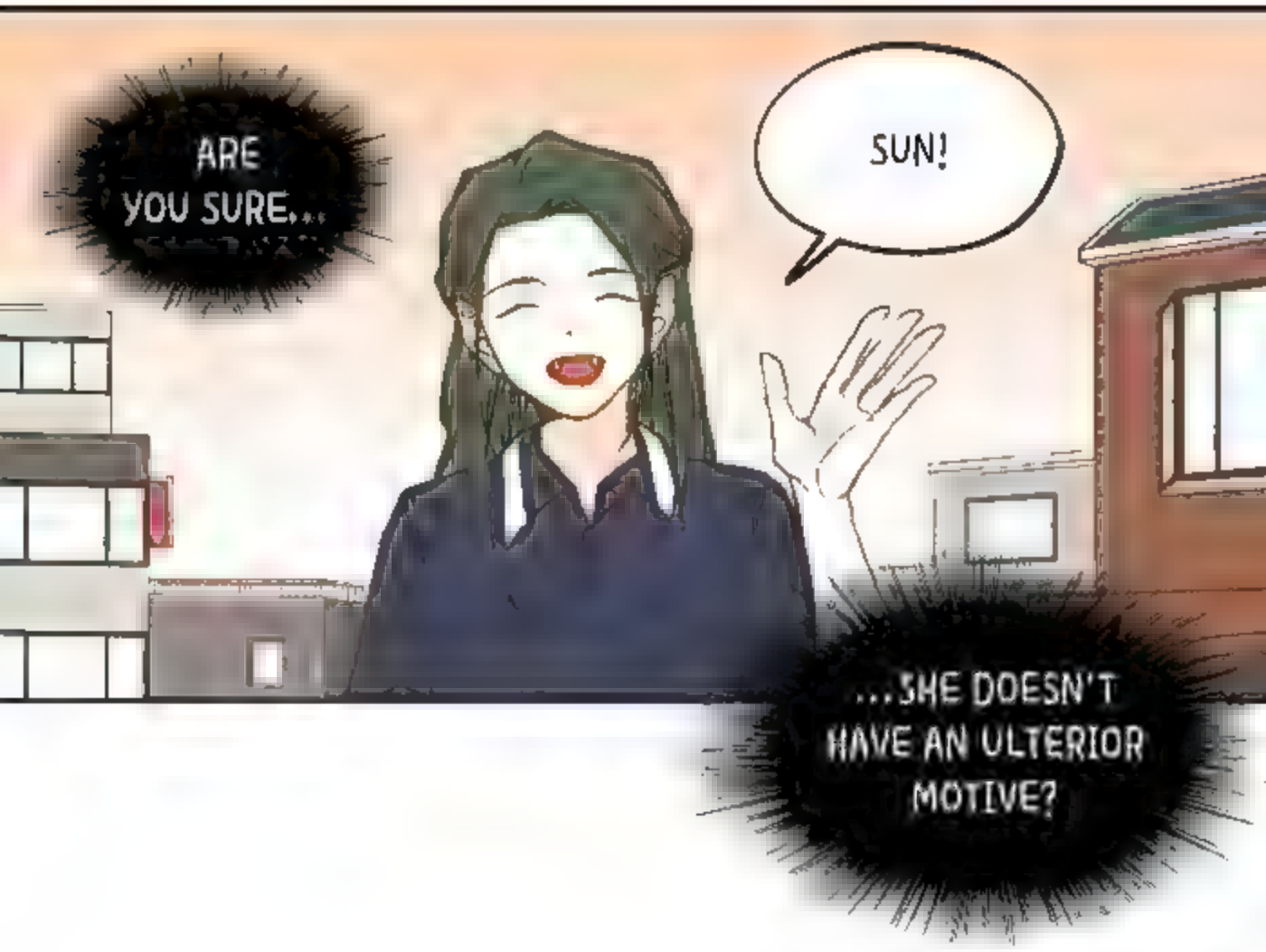




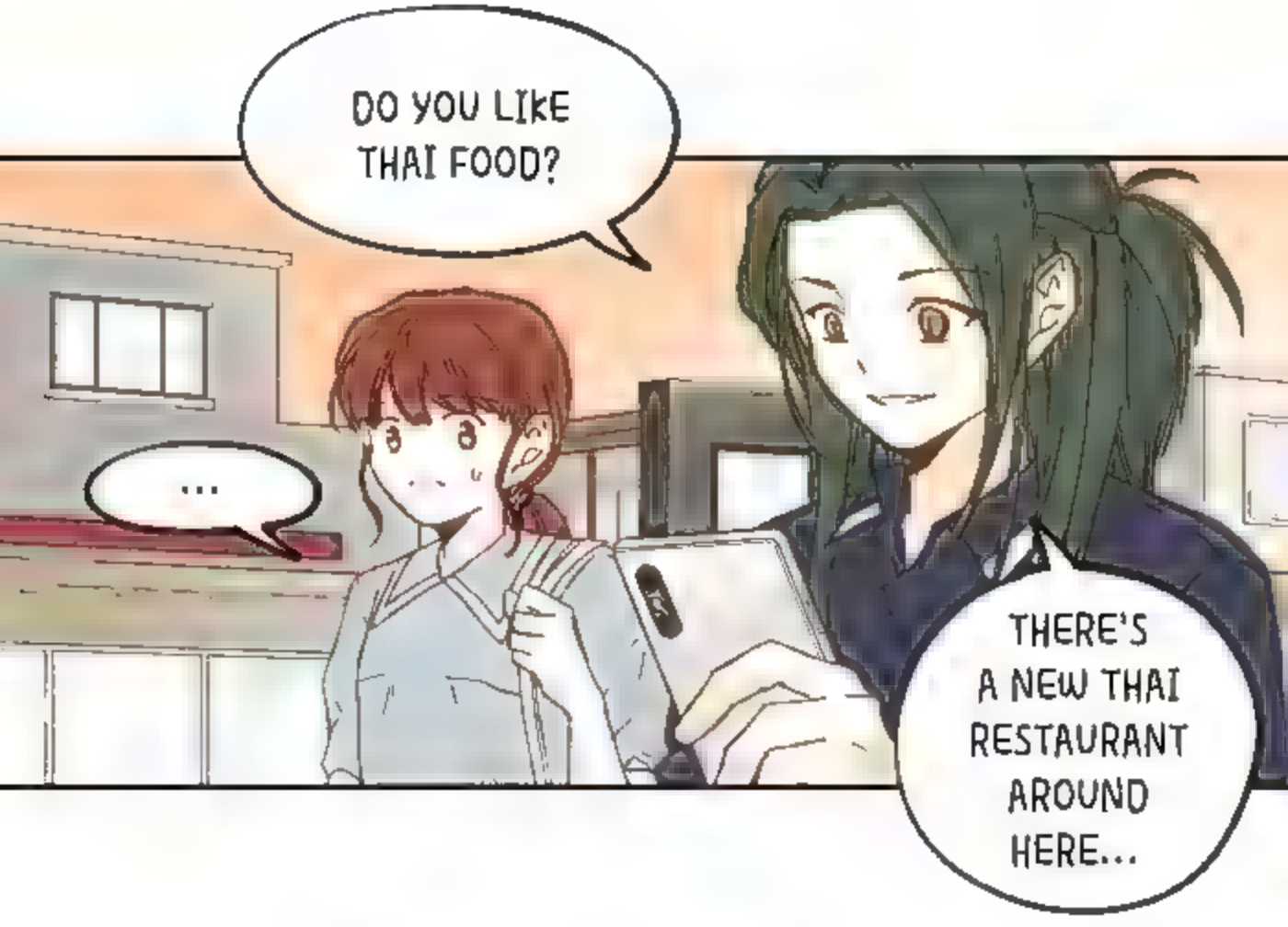

I MEAN...
...IT'S SO RANDOM HOW SHE CONTACTED YOU OUT OF NOWHERE.
I THOUGHT SHE WANTED TO INVITE HER FORMER CLASSMATES TO HER WEDDING OR SOMETHING BUT THAT WASN'T IT.

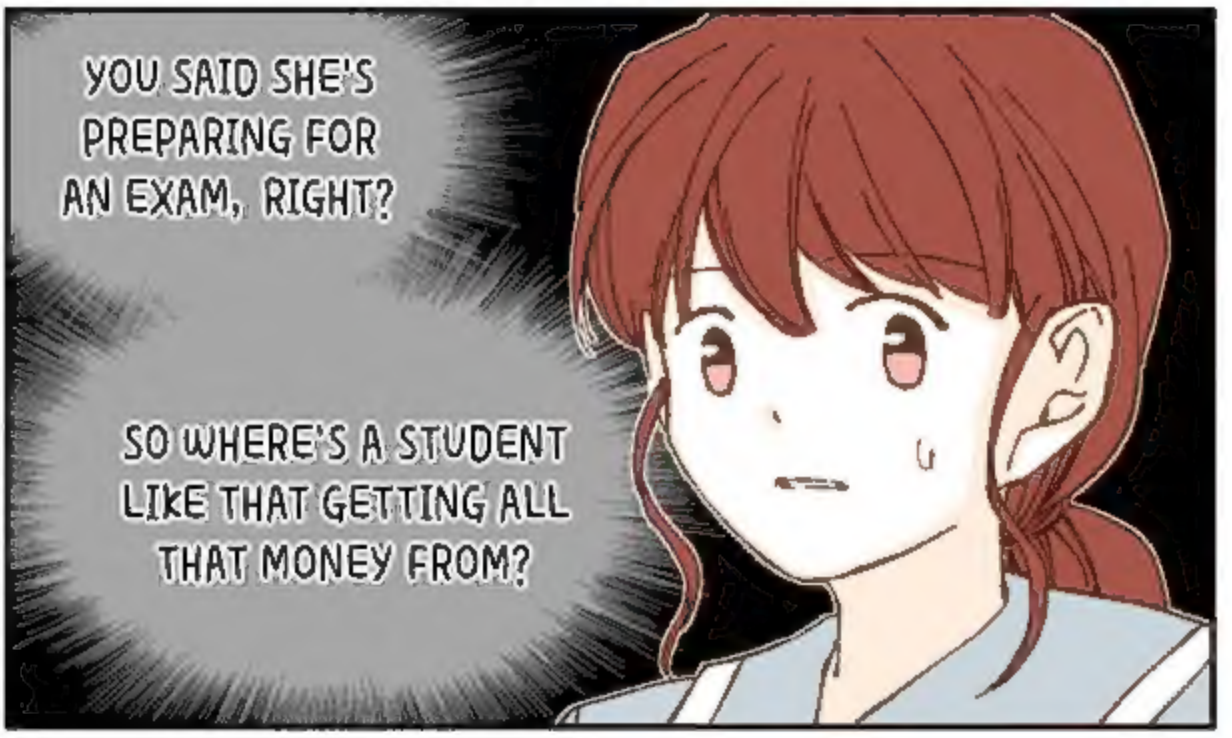

SHE'S ACTING LIKE SHE'S YOUR BESTIE EVEN THOUGH YOU GUYS DON'T KNOW EACH OTHER THAT WELL.
SHE GOT YOU CONCERT TICKETS, EXPENSIVE PRESENTS,

BUYS YOU FANCY MEALS...



JUST NOW.
DID YOU HAVE A GOOD TIME WITH YOUR FRIENDS?


DO YOU LIKE THAI FOOD?
...
THERE'S A NEW THAI RESTAURANT AROUND HERE...


YOU SAID SHE'S PREPARING FOR AN EXAM, RIGHT?
SO WHERE'S A STUDENT LIKE THAT GETTING ALL THAT MONEY FROM?

SHALL WE SIT HERE?

SURE...
I ALSO THOUGHT IT WAS ODD WHEN YOU WENT TO BUSAN WITH HER.
SHE ENDED UP STAYING AT YOUR PLACE AT THE LAST MINUTE...
...SO WHEN DID SHE HAVE THE TIME TO GET A PRESENT FOR YOUR GRANDMOTHER?

NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT...
...IT REALLY SEEMS LIKE SHE APPROACHED YOU FOR A DEFINITE REASON.
...

MAYBE...
...SHE'S INTO SOME WEIRD RELIGION?

LIKE A CULT?